

# CONGRESSMAN DAN LIPINSKI

REPRESENTING THE THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
FALL 2017 UPDATE • 115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS



Dear Neighbor:

Washington is consumed by reckless rhetoric and actions that hurt our nation. While vigilantly opposing this, I remain focused on working on solutions to problems facing our district and the nation, especially the middle class.

Congress has been generally dysfunctional, but I've been happy to help lead in the formation of bipartisan solutions through the Problem Solvers Caucus. In this newsletter you can read about a plan we developed to make healthcare more affordable, as well as other ways I've been fighting to create jobs, defend American workers, help small businesses, honor veterans, improve local transportation, protect the environment, and support our local communities.

In the coming weeks, I will be hosting a town hall meeting and three senior fairs. These are great opportunities for you to get some help and have your voice heard. If you would like to receive regular updates about my work on your behalf, sign up for my newsletter at [lipinski.house.gov](http://lipinski.house.gov).

It's an honor and privilege to serve you.

  
Dan Lipinski



## Lipinski Works to Make Healthcare More Affordable

Lipinski voted against attempts to repeal the *Affordable Care Act* (ACA) and replace it with a plan that makes healthcare less affordable and accessible for millions of Americans. The Congressman has always voted against repeal of the law, but has supported more than a dozen revisions to help fix the ACA.

In July, he helped develop a plan endorsed by the 43 member bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus which would make the ACA more affordable. The plan guarantees cost-sharing reduction payments, which the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) says would mean 20% lower ACA premiums and almost \$200 billion less in federal spending. It would also restart a reinsurance program, which the CBO said led to 10% lower ACA premiums in 2016.

The Congressman continues to fight to make healthcare more affordable for the middle class and small businesses, including working to bring down the high cost of pharmaceuticals.



*Lipinski speaks about the importance of fixing the ACA with a constituent in Palos Park.*

## Congressional assistance is available at these offices:

6245 S. Archer Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60638  
773-948-6223

5210 W. 95th St.  
Suite 104  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453  
708-424-0853

Orland Park Village Hall  
14700 Ravinia Ave., 1st Floor  
Orland Park, IL 60462  
708-403-4379

Lockport Central Square  
222 E. 9th St. #109  
Lockport, IL 60441  
815-838-1990

# Lipinski Fights for the Middle Class

## Introduces “Buy American” Bill

Lipinski’s *Buy American Improvement Act of 2017* would close gaping loopholes in existing “Buy American” laws and apply those stronger requirements to federal spending programs not already covered. This would promote domestic manufacturing, increase accountability in government spending, and ensure taxpayer dollars create more American jobs.

## Pushing NAFTA Changes Benefitting Workers

The Congressman helped introduce legislation to serve as a blueprint for the current renegotiation of the harmful North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as well as all future trade deals. The “21st Century Workers’ Bill of Rights” includes core principles such as the right to unionize, protection of “Buy American” laws, and environmental safeguards.

## Unveils Bill to Boost Apprenticeship Programs

Lipinski introduced the *Apprenticeship Improvement Act of 2017* to expand the use of early apprenticeship programs. He also supported the *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act*, which would reauthorize the main federal programs that support the development of career and technical skills. Both bills will help young people begin successful careers.



*Lipinski visits with apprentices from Aon in Chicago and announces his bill to reinvigorate America’s apprenticeship programs.*



*Lipinski reviews his American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act at Atlas Tool & Die Works in Lyons.*

## National Manufacturing Plan Required by Lipinski’s American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act Due in Spring

Because Lipinski’s *American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act* was signed into law, the federal government is required next year to produce the first strategy to promote American manufacturing since the days of Alexander Hamilton.

“Implementing a plan to promote American manufacturing is crucial because manufacturing is critical to our security and provides middle-class jobs that pay good wages,” said the Congressman.

## Votes to Keep Strong Wall Street Oversight

Lipinski voted against legislation that would roll back the progress that has been made in reining in Wall Street and stopping bank bailouts, and would gut the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau which has secured, according to the agency, close to \$12 billion in relief for 29 million consumers.

“We must make sure that oversight of Wall Street and the financial sector is strong enough to protect consumers from unscrupulous and irresponsible business practices that hurt average Americans and put the middle class on the hook for more bailouts,” stated Lipinski.

## Lipinski Leads on Transportation

### **Stops Rule Harmful to Local Projects**

In May, a bill introduced by Lipinski and Sen. Tammy Duckworth was signed into law. It revokes a federal rule that would have delayed transportation projects, undermined local control, and hurt job growth. “With so many local transportation projects needing to get done, we could not allow the federal government to put another obstacle in the way,” said Lipinski.

### **Protects the Safety of Transit Riders**

In the wake of terror attacks overseas, the Congressman introduced the *SAFER TRANSIT Act* to better secure our nation’s public transit systems and infrastructure. The bill directs the Transportation Security Administration to follow through on critical security provisions and reauthorizes a program that increases the presence of law enforcement and terrorism deterrence at high-risk transportation locations.

### **Brings in Funds for Metra Safety Technology**

Metra is receiving \$20 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation for Positive Train Control (PTC) safety technology which prevents train collisions and derail-

ments, and increases worker safety. Lipinski first included funding for PTC in the *Rail Safety Improvement Act*.



*Rep. Lipinski and local officials mark the completion of the \$1.1 million Stone Avenue Metra Station restoration project in La Grange which was made possible by \$700,000 in federal funding obtained by Lipinski.*

## Lipinski Defends Our Environment

### **Protects Our Drinking Water and Great Lakes**

Lipinski is working hard to maintain strong environmental protections for the Great Lakes. He is supporting funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, opposing a Canadian nuclear waste storage facility on the shore of Lake Huron, and opposing the closing of EPA’s Chicago office which houses its Great Lakes Program.



*The Congressman talks about the new Climate Solutions Caucus with a Willow Springs resident.*

### **Supports Climate Agreement, Clean Energy**

“The decision to pull the U.S. out of the Paris Climate Agreement will damage our economy and environment,” Lipinski said. “The pact is flexible enough for our nation to meet all our energy needs and it would help put us in a better leadership position for creating new energy jobs.”

As a member of the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus, the Congressman supports research, development, and deployment of clean energy technology that reduces our environmental impact, grows manufacturing and technology jobs, and saves consumers money. He is fighting efforts to end successful programs that fund transformative clean energy technology in places such as Argonne National Lab in Lemont by petitioning the Secretary of Energy and cosponsoring the *ARPA-E Reauthorization Act*. He has also called on the EPA to keep the Clean Power Plan in place and cosponsored the *CLIMATE Act* which protects environmental regulations on domestic energy production.

# Lipinski Honors Our Heroes

## Helps Veterans Get Jobs

He wrote and introduced the *Veterans Apprenticeship and Certification Act* to assist veterans in finding the right career after military service and help employers find these qualified, dedicated, and hard-working Americans. The bill allows veterans to use their Post-9/11 GI benefits for the tuition and fees associated with an apprenticeship.

## Introduces Purple Heart Heroes Act

His bill would grant every recipient of the Purple Heart and their dependents access to Department of Defense commissaries and recreation facilities.

“These heroes and their families deserve our utmost gratitude,” said Lipinski. “It is our duty as a nation to not only say that we appreciate their brave service, but also to enact policies demonstrating that gratitude.”



*Lipinski helps a veteran interested in sharing his stories with the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project. The program collects and preserves the personal accounts of veterans. All veterans are invited to call Lipinski's Chicago office for more information.*

# Lipinski Supports Local Communities

## Boosts Community Health Centers

A grant for the Community Nurse Health Center in La Grange will help expand access to mental health and substance abuse services including the treatment, prevention, and awareness of opioid abuse.

## Helps Capture First Responder Equipment Grants

These funds will help purchase much-needed new equipment for the Burbank, Cicero, Homer Township, La Grange, and Stickney Fire Departments and the Orland Fire Protection District.

## Assists With Grants for Hiring First Responders

He helped bring in almost two million dollars towards the hiring of additional staff for the Oak Lawn Fire Department and Roberts Park Fire Protection District.

## Improves Safety at Midway Airport

This year alone, he has helped secure more than \$2.5 million in grants to upgrade airport safety.

## Works to Improve Access to Computer Science Education

An over one-million-dollar grant to a local educational partnership of academic institutions and organizations from the Chicago area will help ensure that all Chicago Public School students have access to inclusive, high-quality, introductory computer science education in high school.



*The Congressman presents the Community Nurse Health Center in La Grange with a check to help expand access to mental health and substance abuse services.*

## Lipinski Protects Consumers

### Opposes Bill Protecting Corporate Wrongdoers from Consumer Lawsuits

Lipinski voted against repeal of a federal rule that would help victims of corporate wrongdoing hold companies accountable. The rule banned mandatory arbitration clauses in the fine print of financial contracts. This would help ensure that consumers harmed by events like the Wells Fargo fraudulent account opening scandal or the Equifax data breach get their day in court.

“Credit agencies have collected enormous amounts of information about millions of Americans’ lives,” said Lipinski. “The very least that we should expect is vigilance and care in handling the sensitive information these agencies hold. Equifax utterly failed in this regard. The victims of this breach will be at risk of identity theft for decades to come. Congress should not be passing legislation that makes it easier for corporate wrongdoers to get off the hook for their abuse or negligence.”

### Combats Unlimited Robocalls to Voicemail

He helped lead a letter to the FCC opposing the removal of consumer protections against ringless voicemail. Ringless voicemail allows callers to send messages directly to a cell phone inbox without alerting the user that



*In Bridgeview, Lipinski explains how he is combating ringless voicemail.*

a call is coming in. The request to remove protections was dropped after the letter was sent.

### Fights for Airline Passenger Protections

In the wake of the recent intolerable treatment of airline passengers and other unacceptable incidents on commercial flights, the Congressman introduced the *Airline Consumer Protection Act*, which requires airlines to provide better service, accommodations, and guarantees of timely arrival for all airline passengers.

## Lipinski Backs Small Business

### Helps Create Jobs

The House passed the *Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Improvements Act*, which contains innovative provisions authored by the Congressman that will help small businesses grow and create jobs. SBIR is one of the most important sources of grant funding for American small businesses.

### Strengthens Cybersecurity

The House approved the *NIST Small Business Cybersecurity Act of 2017*, a bill led by Lipinski that will help small businesses better protect their computer systems from cyberattacks that can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and even bankrupt many small companies.



*The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce presents Rep. Lipinski with the annual Spirit of Enterprise award for his legislative work helping small businesses.*



**Congressman Dan Lipinski**  
3rd Congressional District

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*Dan Lipinski*

M.C.  
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## Upcoming Events Hosted by Congressman Lipinski

### TOWN HALL MEETING

**Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> 6:00 – 7:30 pm**

Everest Academy  
11550 Bell Rd, Lemont

*Congressional staff will be available starting  
at 5:00 pm for assistance with federal agencies*

### SENIOR FAIRS

**Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am – noon**

Operating Engineers Local 150  
6200 Joliet Rd, Countryside

**Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am – noon**

The Bridgeport Art Center  
1200 W. 35<sup>th</sup> St, Chicago

**Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am – noon**

Johnson-Phelps VFW Post #5220  
9514 S. 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Oak Lawn



*Lipinski talks about Social Security issues at a fair in Oak Lawn.*

### Rep. Lipinski's Offices are Available to Help You with the Following:

- Social Security and Medicare
- Veterans' Benefits and Military Service Issues
- Military Service Academy Appointments
- Assistance with U.S. Passport Agency
- Immigration and Naturalization Services
- U.S. Post Office Issues
- IRS Problems
- Small Business Administration Services
- Planning Trips to Washington, D.C.
- Ordering an American Flag that has been Flown Over the U.S. Capitol



*Lipinski and local officials honor the 2017 Service Academy Nominees from the district at his special ceremony. The Congressman is currently accepting nomination request letters from young men and women in the district who want to enter one of the U.S. Service Academies in 2018. The deadline is November 27, 2017.*

**SIGN UP FOR THE CONGRESSMAN'S EMAIL NEWSLETTER AT [LIPINSKI.HOUSE.GOV](http://LIPINSKI.HOUSE.GOV)**